

Participant Information Sheet/Consent Form



Participant Information Sheet

Non-Interventional Study - Adult providing own consent

Title	<i>Investigating the changing drinking contexts in Western Australia: A sub-section of the International Alcohol Control Study</i>
Protocol Number	<i>Western Australian drinking contexts study</i>
Project Sponsor	<i>Healthway</i>
Coordinating Principal Investigator/ Principal Investigator	<i>Professor Robin Room</i>

Part 1 What does my participation involve?

Introduction

You are invited to take part in this research project, Western Australian drinking contexts study. This is because your phone number matched the Western Australian phone number randomly generated by a computer. The research project is aiming to investigate how Western Australians drink and purchase alcohol and how changes to policy influence drinking behaviour.

This Participant Information Sheet tells you about the research project. It explains the tests and research involved. Knowing what is involved will help you decide if you want to take part in the research.

Please read this information carefully. Ask questions about anything that you don't understand or want to know more about. Before deciding whether or not to take part, you might want to talk about it with a relative, friend or local doctor.

Participation in this research is voluntary. If you don't wish to take part, you don't have to. This copy of the Participant Information Sheet is yours to keep.

What is the purpose of this research?

- The main aim of the study is to learn about how Western Australians consume and purchase alcohol, especially on big nights.
- While other studies have collected information on how much people drink, this study will also examine how they purchase alcohol, as well as how much they drink on big nights.

- Approximately 500 Western Australians will participate in this study.
- People aged 16 and over will be asked to participate in the project.
- This study is part of a larger International Alcohol Control Study that is being conducted in six countries internationally that is hoping to learn more about alcohol consumption around the world.
- This research has been funded by Healthway.
- This research is being conducted by researchers at Turning Point, Eastern Health and Curtin University.

What does participation in this research involve?

- The Social Research Centre is contacting participating households and will randomly select a member of the household to participate in the study. If this participant consents to participate in the study they will be asked a range of questions about their alcohol consumption and purchasing, as well as a range of questions on the outcomes of their drinking and their views on alcohol policy.
- We will ask you a couple of preliminary questions about your alcohol consumption, and some people will not be asked to participate. Please note that some people who do not drink at all or drink very little will be asked to participate.
- The survey will take approximately 20 to 25 minutes to complete.
- Respondents will be asked if they can be contacted again later for a follow up survey. At the end of this survey you may be asked again if it is okay for us to retain your contact details for future work. There is no obligation for you to provide your details to be re-contacted.

What do I have to do?

We would like you to complete a survey on your alcohol consumption and purchasing habits over the phone.

Other relevant information about the research project

- We are hoping to recruit 500 Western Australians to participate in the study.
- We are hoping to recruit extra people who drink five or more standard drinks in a day once a month or more.
- This survey has been administered in a 2013 study with an Australian-wide sample and also forms part of an international collaborative study called the International Alcohol Control Study.

Do I have to take part in this research project?

Participation in any research project is voluntary. If you do not wish to take part, you do not have to. If you decide to take part and later change your mind, you are free to withdraw from the project at any stage. If you do decide to withdraw, please notify a member of the research team.

What are the possible benefits of taking part?

There will be no specific benefit to you from your participation in this research. However it is hoped that the study will provide important new information on alcohol consumption and related problems in Australia and its results will be used to better inform public policy surrounding alcohol.

What are the possible risks and disadvantages of taking part?

If you become upset or distressed as a result of your participation in the research, the researcher is able to arrange for counselling or other appropriate support. Should you become distressed, you can contact Lifeline's 24 Hour Crisis Support Service on **13 11 14** or DirectLine on **1800 888 236** which provides 24-hour, 7-day counselling, information and referral Drug and Alcohol related matters. Any counselling or support will be provided by staff who are not members of the research team.

What if I withdraw from this research project?

If you decide to withdraw from this research project, please notify a member of the research team before you withdraw.

Part 2 How is the research project being conducted?

What will happen to information about me?

All information you provide will be collected with all other answers from across Australia. Any identifying information will be kept separately from your actual responses to the survey so that the two cannot be connected to each other. All identifying information will be kept on a password protected disk in a locked cabinet. Survey responses will be kept on a password protected computer file. It is anticipated that the results of this research project will be published and/or presented in a variety of forums. In any publication and/or presentation, information will be provided in such a way that you cannot be identified, except with your permission.

Survey responses will also be added to an international database of responses to this survey with all identifying information removed. The only people who will be able to access this information will be researchers working as a part of this project, and only to answer specific research questions that need to be approved by an advisory committee. We are bound by the Provisions of the Commonwealth Privacy Act, as amended in December 2001.

In accordance with relevant Australian and/or Victorian privacy and other relevant laws, you have the right to access the information collected and stored by the researchers about you. Please contact one of the researchers named at the end of this document if you would like to access your information. In addition, in accordance with regulatory guidelines, the information collected in this research project will be kept for at least seven years.

Complaints and compensation

If you have any complaints about any aspect of the project, the way it is being conducted or any questions about being a research participant in general, then you may contact the Chair Person of Eastern Health Research and Ethics on 9895 3398

Who is organising and funding the research?

This research project is being conducted by *Eastern Health (reference EC00211)*.

No member of the research team will receive a personal financial benefit from your involvement in this research project (other than their ordinary wages).

Who has reviewed the research project?

The ethical aspects of this research project have been approved by the Human Research Ethics Committee of Eastern Health (EH EC00211).

This project will be carried out according to the *National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2007)* produced by the National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia. This statement has been developed to protect the interests of people who agree to participate in human research studies

Further information and who to contact

If you want any further information concerning this project or if you have any problems which may be **related to your involvement in the project (for example, feelings of distress)** you can contact Dr Sarah Callinan on 03 8413 8475.

Reviewing HREC approving this research and HREC Executive Officer details

Reviewing HREC name	<i>Eastern Health Ethics</i>
HREC Executive Officer	<i>The Chair</i>
Telephone	<i>03 9895 3398</i>
Email	<i>ethics@easternhealth.org.au</i>